

Holy Eucharist

August 25, 2024

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85887946777?pwd=eig4MEdsMUh6clV6b2dUblFOQ3I2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 858 8794 6777

Passcode: 782611

Proper 16B, Pentecost 14

Prelude



All stand as they are able

Opening Hymn

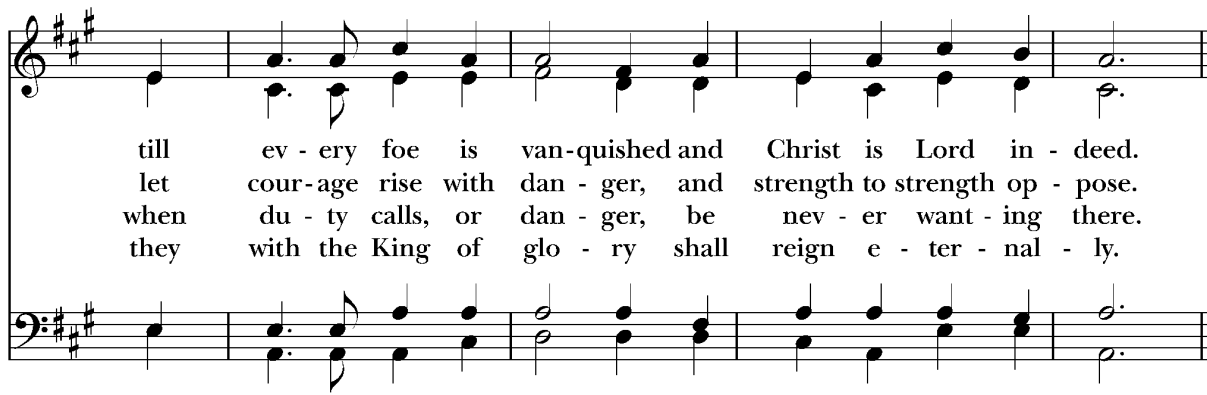
Hymnal 561

Stand up, stand up for Jesus

1 Stand up, stand up, for Je - sus, ye sold - iers of the cross;
2 Stand up, stand up, for Je - sus; the trum - pet call o - bey;
3 Stand up, stand up, for Je - sus; stand in this strength a - lone;
4 Stand up, stand up, for Je - sus: the strife will not be long:

lift high his roy - al ban - ner, it must not suf - fer loss:
forth to the might - y con - flict in this his glo - rious day:
the arm of flesh will fail you, ye dare not trust your own:
this day, the noise of bat - tle; the next, the vic - tor's song.

from vic - tory un - to vic - tory his ar - my shall he lead,
ye that are his now serve him a - gainst un - num - bered foes;
put on the Gos - pel ar - mor, and watch - ing un - to prayer,
To val - iant hearts tri - um - phant, a crown of life shall be;



till ev - ery foe is van - quished and Christ is Lord in - deed.
 let cour - age rise with dan - ger, and strength to strength op - pose.
 when du - ty calls, or dan - ger, be nev - er want - ing there.
 they with the King of glo - ry shall reign e - ter - nal - ly.

Presider Blessed be God: + Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen

The Presider begins the Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Glory to God in the highest,
 and peace to God's people on earth.
 Lord God, heavenly King,
 almighty God and Father,
 we worship you, we give you thanks,
 we praise you for your glory.
 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
 Lord God, Lamb of God,
 you take away the sin of the world:
 have mercy on us;
 you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
 receive our prayer.
 For you alone are the Holy One,
 you alone are the Lord,
 you alone are the Most High,
 Jesus Christ,
 with the Holy Spirit,
 in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

All sit.

First Reading

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

A Reading from the book of Joshua.

¹Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ^{2a}And Joshua said to all the people, ¹⁴“Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

¹⁶Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; ¹⁷for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Remain seated

Psalm 34:15-22

to be prayed responsively beginning with the men

¹⁵The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, *
and his ears are open to their cry.

WOMEN ¹⁶**The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, ***
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

¹⁷The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them *
and delivers them from all their troubles.

¹⁸**The LORD is near to the brokenhearted ***
and will save those whose spirits are crushed.

¹⁹Many are the troubles of the righteous, *
but the LORD will deliver him out of them all.

²⁰**He will keep safe all his bones; ***
not one of them shall be broken.

²¹Evil shall slay the wicked, *
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

**²²The LORD ransoms the life of his servants, *
and none will be punished who trust in him.**

Second Reading

Ephesians 6:10-20

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Ephesus.

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

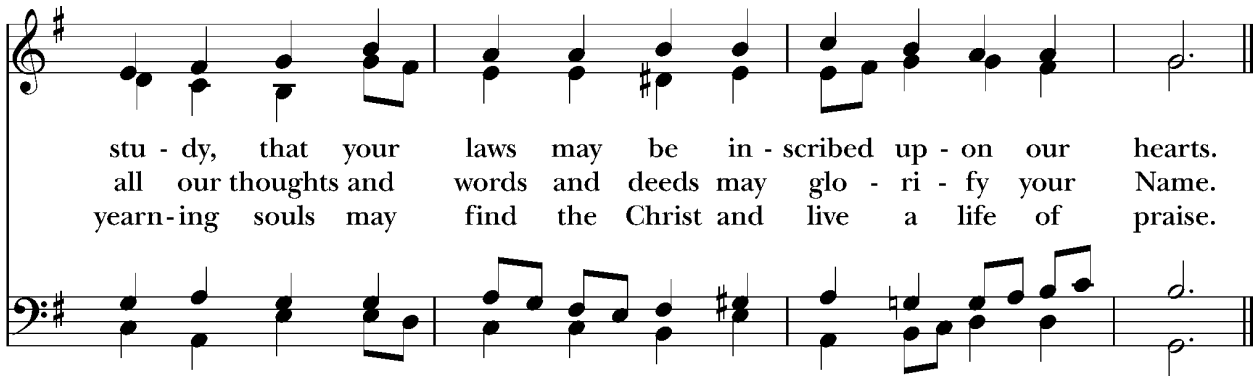
All then stand as they are able.

Sequence Hymn

Hymnal 628

Help us, O Lord, to learn

1 Help us, O Lord, to learn the truths your word im - parts: to
2 Help us, O Lord, to live the faith which we pro - claim, that
3 Help us, O Lord, to teach the beau - ty of your ways, that



Holy Gospel

John 6:56-69

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

[Jesus said,] ⁵⁶“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”



⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

Bill Stech

All then stand as they are able.

Nicene Creed

Presider Let us affirm the faith of the Church using the words of the Nicene Creed.

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father [and the Son],
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

All remain standing as they are able.

Prayers of the People

Presider Brothers and sisters, children of God, we come to the Holy One, trusting that our prayers will be heard. May God bless our questions and the stirring of our hearts, and grant us wonder and delight in all God's mysteries. We come before you, O God, saying, bless us and keep us close.

Intercessor We pray for your church, that we may be alert to your stirring, and aware of your presence. Guide and strengthen those in leadership: our people; our bishops, priests, deacons, and Ministry Teams. Empower all who worship and serve in your church, in your name. We come before you, O God, saying, **bless us and keep us close.**

Silence is kept.

Our hearts ache for people, in our community and around the world, who live in poverty, hunger, and oppression. Keep us mindful of their needs, and move us to make a difference in their lives. We come before you, O God, saying, **bless us and keep us close.**

Silence is kept.

Your eternally bountiful gifts are all around us, and we pray forgiveness when we hoard or waste them. Give us hearts thankful for all your blessings [especially_____]. We come before you, O God, saying, **bless us and keep us close.**

Silence is kept.

We are surrounded by people who are in pain, physically and spiritually [especially_____]. We pray that they are upheld by our prayers and come to know healing in their lives. We come before you, O God, saying, **bless us and keep us close.**

Silence is kept.

Some among us are dying, and some have passed into eternal life. [We remember especially_____.] We pray for those who mourn and ask that all may be assured of your unending presence and your promise of life eternal with your saints in light. We come before you, O God, saying, **bless us and keep us close.**

Silence is kept

Presider O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us, and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

The Presider says to the people

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8, 9*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All remain standing, or kneel, as they are able.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

A Priest stands and says

Almighty God have + mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

All stand as they are able

Peace

Presider The peace of the LORD be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Ministers and the People may offer God's peace to one another in the name of the Lord.

The People then are seated.

Announcements

Holy Communion

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.
Ephesians 5:2

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the Presider.

The people stand as they are able when the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

Offertory Hymn

Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

The people remain standing as they are able

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

The Presider proceeds

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages, you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of our sister, Mary, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The people continue to stand, or kneel, as they are able.

The Presider continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them + by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, “Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Parents; God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekka, and Jacob, Leah, and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve others in the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

The Presider then continues

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

The Presider says

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.
We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

These are the gifts of God for the People of God.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

When all who desire have received, the Presider says

Let us pray.

Presider and People

**God of abundance,
you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us
with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one
with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever
in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Blessing

A priest blesses the people, saying

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who journey the way with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind.

And the blessing of God Almighty, + the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Concluding Hymn

Tune: Hymnal 73

O Bread of life, you called your friends

The musical score is written for a soprano and bass voice part. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff for the soprano and a bass clef staff for the bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

O Bread of Life, you called your friends to
Some peo- ple said, "It's much too hard to
Your friends asked, "How can we re- ceive the
O Je- sus, come a- bide in us; may

eat and drink your life — you gave a gift that
un- der- stand your Way." They said, "This teach- ing
life that comes from you?" You told them, "Just be-
we be Spi- rit- led to turn to you in

Nev- er ends through your own sac- ri- fice.
goes too far," and so they went a- way.
-lieve in me and you will be made new."
Faith and trust, for you're the li- ving bread.

Dismissal

Minister And now, my brothers and sisters in Christ, I bid you go out as did St Barnabas, the Encourager. Go out with a good heart, full of peace and joy, to love and serve our Lord.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Postlude

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This week in prayer

Please remember these persons and congregations in your prayers this week:

Our Bishops Bonnie, Michael, Sean, Justin, Moises (TEC); Elizabeth, Donald and Craig (ELCA) **and for** all priests, deacons, Ministry Teams, and those in formation

Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

August 25 La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico

Diocese of Michigan Cycle of Prayer:

August 25 St James', Grosse Ile; St Peter's, Hillsdale; Divine Grace, Mosovi, DR

St Barnabas Cycle of Prayer: Jerry, Amy, Nannette

and our continuing prayers for: Jim M, Mardi, Pat, Robert, Selenah

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Faith in Action is in need of our continuing help. You may bring your donations to FIA, or to Nancy who will see that they get there. **If you bring food directly to FIA**, please let Nancy know, so she can continue to keep our records of donation. If you write a check, please make it to *Faith In Action*, with "St Barnabas" on the memo line. The **next Food Drive** is **September 15**. In the Spirit of Christ our Bread, please contribute as generously as you can.

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Upcoming Commemorations

- August 25 Louis, King of France, 1270
- 26 Simeon Bachos, the Ethiopian Eunuch, Evangelist in Africa, NT
- 27 Thomas Gallaudet and Henry Winter Syle, Priests, 1902 and 1890
- 28 Augustine of Hippo, Bishop and Theologian, 430; and,
Moses the Black: Desert Father and Martyr, c. 405
- 29 John Bunyan, Writer, 1688
- 30 Charles Chapman Grafton, Bishop of Fond du Lac, and Ecumenist, 1912
- 31 Aidan, Bishop, 651

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Proper 16B August 25, 2024

Ephesians 6:10-20

Our verses from Ephesians ironically utilize apocalyptic imagery to encourage us to preach the gospel of peace! While images of battle-ready Roman soldiers perhaps don't animate our imagination as they did for our ancestors, we might, however, reinterpret this "call to arms" as an invitation to name and resist the powers that seek to thwart the good news of peace. Our tendency will be to look outside ourselves for these powers, to point to our ecclesiastical, political, and ideological opponents. Indeed, sometimes we must resist those who brazenly seek to advance that which

offends human dignity and contravenes the Gospel. Let's also humbly look within and ask of ourselves, "What part of me rebels against being 'strong in the Lord' (v. 10)?" It is the human experience to be a collection of contradictions and conflicting desires. It requires the courage and spiritual armor of the warrior, so well described in our text, to face the shadow within, to admit our rationalizations, to name the roots of our resistances. This kind of work does indeed require the support of spiritual friends – the supplication of the saints (v. 18).

- How and where in your life are you being called to put on spiritual armor so that you may boldly face those "forces", within and without, that stand in the way of the gospel of peace?

John 6:56-69

"To whom can we go?" Peter's words are on one level a great expression of humility. Anyone who makes a deep, abiding commitment will ultimately come to such a point, a realization that we've invested so much of ourselves into a relationship, cause, vocation, etc., that the doors to other options, for better or worse, are closed.

On a deeper level, we might interpret Peter's confession here to be a great spiritual truth – ultimate, real meaning can only be found in faith and relationship with God. Many people struggle to find meaning in their lives. I believe this is what lies beneath much of the restlessness and happiness-seeking that goes on in our culture. It is the search for meaning. And to satisfy this search, we are directed toward many avenues – making a name for ourselves, achieving something great, having a family, becoming famous, accumulating wealth, etc. In the end, none of these satisfy our soul-felt longing, because that longing comes from something infinite. As Augustine said, our hearts are restless until they rest in God.

Our theology teaches us that God is the One, the True, the Good, the Beautiful. All of our striving is in some way a reaching toward these virtues because we know that's where meaning is. Ultimately, we'll find authentic meaning in our lives when we're in relationship with this God as we know God. This is when and where we will find the answer to the question, "to whom can we go?"

- Where in your life have you experienced the emotion underlying Peter's words, "to whom can we go?"

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Drawing on p.15 by the Rev. Jay Sidebotham, from *Drawn to the Gospels: an illustrated lectionary*, Year B, p.120

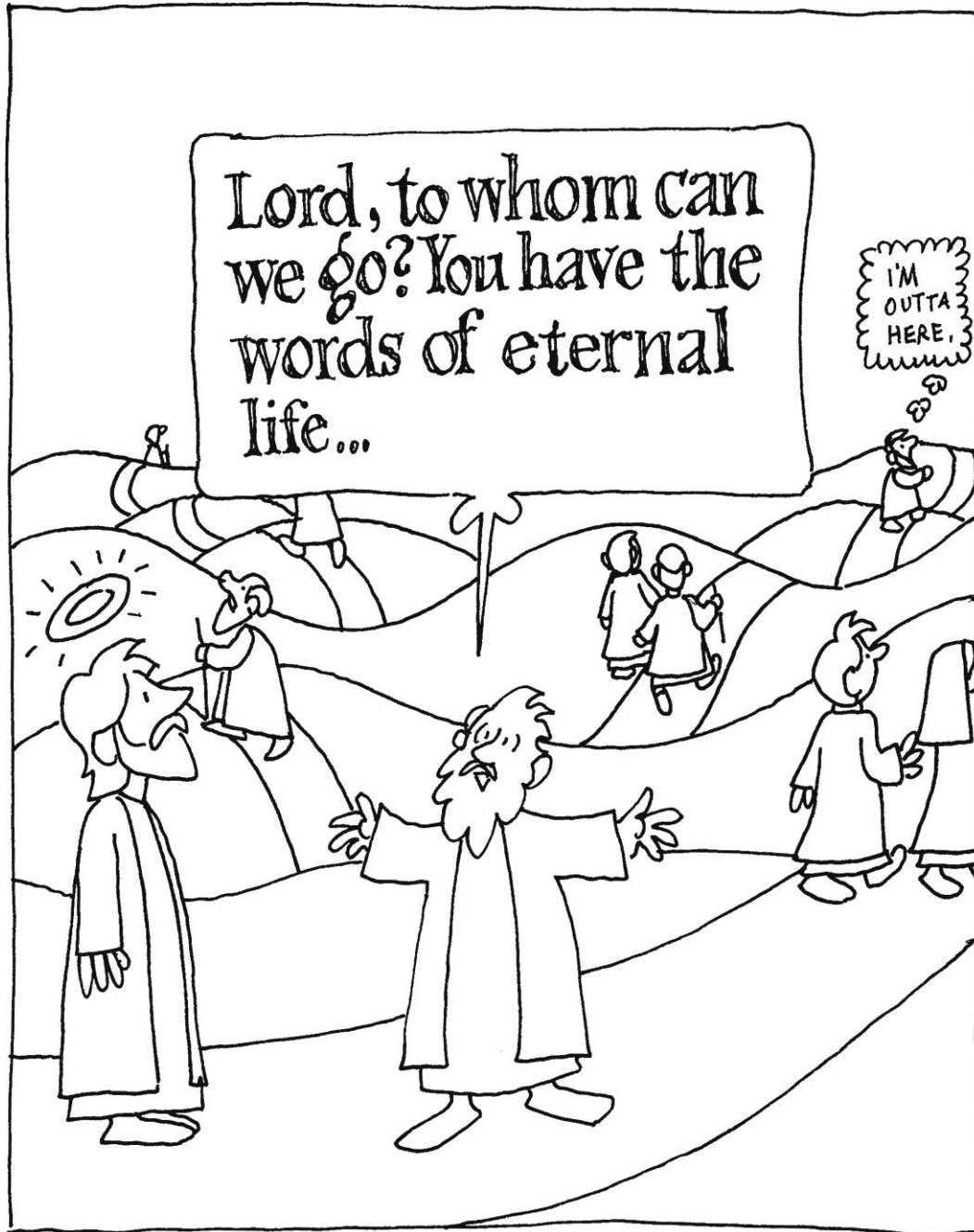
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Tune "St Stephen," found at *Hymnal* #73

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Our Mission:

We seek to grow as diverse disciples of Jesus Christ, and to serve Jesus by serving others in the world, guided by the values of Ancient Rites, Open Minds, and Affirming Hearts.



St Barnabas Episcopal Church

A Community of Ministers

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